

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
Southern California Gas Company (U 904 G)
for Authority to Revise its Rates Effective
January 1, 2003, in its Biennial Cost Allocation
Proceeding.

Application 01-09-024

In the Matter of the Application of
San Diego Gas & Electric Company (902 G)
for Authority to Revise its Gas Rates Effective
January 1, 2003, in its Biennial Cost Allocation
Proceeding.

Application 01-10-005

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
GRANTING MOTION FOR ORDER SHORTENING TIME**

Summary

This ruling grants the Office of Ratepayer Advocates' (ORA) Motion for an order shortening the time to respond to the Motion to Suspend the Procedural Schedule¹ from 15 days to 10 days.

¹ Concurrently with the Motion for Order Shortening Time, ORA filed a Motion to Suspend the Procedural Schedule in the consolidated Biennial Cost Allocation Proceedings for Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas & Electric Company.

Background

On September 21, 2001, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) filed its Application for authority to revise its rates effective January 1, 2003, in its Biennial Cost Allocation Proceeding (BCAP) and on October 5, 2001, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) filed its BCAP Application. Pursuant to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) ruling on November 5, 2001, the proceedings were consolidated, a Prehearing Conference (PHC) was scheduled for December 4, 2001, and the parties were ordered to meet and confer and file a PHC statement that included a proposed hearing schedule. At the December 4, 2001, PHC, the schedule as proposed by the parties was adopted. Pursuant to that schedule, testimony is due from ORA on March 22, 2002.

In addition, at the PHC, a law and motion hearing date of January 10, 2002, was set for oral argument on the Motion of the Electric Generator Alliance to Strike Testimony on Embedded Cost-Based Allocation or, in the alternative, to Remove Such Testimony to Another Phase or Proceeding.

On December 11, 2001, the Commission issued Decision (D.) 01-12-018 approving the SoCalGas "Comprehensive Settlement" in Investigation (I.) 99-07-003, the gas industry restructuring proceeding. The Comprehensive Settlement significantly impacts the SoCalGas BCAP and will necessitate the filing of a revised application and supporting testimony. SDG&E will then need to file a revised application and supporting testimony 15 days after the revised showing by SoCalGas. SoCalGas is unable to predict when it will be prepared to file its revised application.

Motion by ORA

ORA is concerned that with the uncertainty as to when SoCalGas and SDG&E will be in a position to file their respective revised applications, and in the absence of those revised documents, ORA will not be in a position to proceed

with the preparation of its testimony and have it served by March 22, 2002.

ORA is moving to suspend the current procedural schedule, and concurrently to shorten the time for responses to that motion. ORA wants to insure that responses to its motion are filed prior to the oral argument on the motion to strike and will give parties an opportunity on January 10 to further discuss the impact the Comprehensive Settlement has on this proceeding.

IT IS RULED that the Office of Ratepayer Advocates' Motion for Order Shortening Time to Respond to the Motion to Suspend the Procedural Schedule from 15 days to 10 days is granted.

Dated January 2, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CAROL BROWN

Carol Brown
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail, to the parties to which an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Granting Motion for Order Shortening Time on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated January 2, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ TERESITA C. GALLARDO
Teresita C. Gallardo

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074,

A.01-09-024, A.01-10-005 CAB/tcg

TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.